

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT - OCTOBER 2007**

The board believe that a safe, healthy working environment is a positive business investment and that health and safety at work should be a high priority for everyone that works for the company, and its subsidiaries.

Home Retail Group shall so far as is reasonably practical safeguard the health, safety and welfare of its employees, customers, visitors and anyone else affected by the operations of the company.

The company is committed to proactive safety management and seeks the cooperation of all employees in achieving a high standard of health and safety.

The Group HR Director is responsible for implementing the health and safety policy and the health and safety risk management group will discuss and communicate this policy throughout the business.

Safety management is a line management responsibility and each level of management shall so far as is reasonably practical implement this by: -

- · Providing and maintaining safe systems and equipment at work
- Ensuring that articles and substances are used, handled, stored and transported safely
- · Providing the necessary training, instruction and supervision
- Providing and maintaining a safe and healthy environment and adequate facilities and arrangements for employee welfare
- Ensuring that access to and from the workplace is safe
- · Setting an example in safe behaviour

It shall be the company policy to comply with all legal requirements and approved codes of practice and use these as a minimum standard. This standard will be improved on wherever possible through effective planning, organisation, control, monitoring and review of protective and preventative measures.

Although it is recognised that management and specialist health and safety advisors have prime responsibility for the health and safety policy, successful implementation requires the co-operation of all employees and each individual's acceptance of their personal responsibilities.

Terry Duddy Chief Executive Officer

Thief Executive Office Home Retail Group Sara Weller Managing Director

Argos

Managing Director

Homebase

David Guise

HR Director

Home Retail Group